Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE work Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control

<b>~</b>	REQUEST	
DEC 0 3 2004	FOR	
CONTINUE	D EXAMINATION (RCE	۲ =
did notes and T	RANSMITTAL	- /

Address 46? Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

	, and a straight fluitiber.
Application Number	09/669,847
Filing Date	September 27, 2000
First Named Inventor	Yoichi Okano
Art Unit	2643
Examiner Name	Jamal, Alexander
Attomey Docket Number	FQ5-488

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO ) on page 2.

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)  b. Other	and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in wapplicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment amendment(s).  a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is extented.	nt(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such			
i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on  ii. Other Amendment filed September 29, 2004  b. Enclosed i. Amendment/Reply iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iv. Other  2. Miscellaneous a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)  b. Other  3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0481 (Deficiencies Only)  i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)  iii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)  iii. Other  b. Check in the amount of \$ 1.220.00 enclosed  c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)  WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.  SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED  Name (Print/Type) James E. Howard Registration No. (Attorney/ Agent) 39,715	a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outston	ding, any amendments filed after the final			
b. Enclosed i. Amendment/Reply iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iv. Other  2. Miscellaneous a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required) b. Other  3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0481 (Deficiencies Only) i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) iii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) iii. Other b. Check in the amount of \$ 1.220.00 enclosed c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.  SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED  Name (Print/Type) James E. Howard  Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 39,715					
b. Enclosed i. Amendment/Reply iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iv. Other  2. Miscellaneous a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required) b. Other  3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0481 (Deficiencies Only) i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) iii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) iii. Other b. Check in the amount of \$ 1.220.00 enclosed c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.  SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED  Name (Print/Type) James E. Howard  Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 39,715	Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on				
i. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iv. Other  2. Miscellaneous a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)  5. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0481 (Deficiencies Only) i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) iii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.17(e)) iii. Other  b. Check in the amount of \$ 1.220.00 enclosed c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)  WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.  SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED  Name (Print / Type) James E. Howard  Registration No. (Attomey / Agent) 39,715	ii. Amendment filed September 29, 2004				
b. Other  3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0481 (Deficiencies Only) i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) iii. Other  b. Check in the amount of \$ 1.220.00 enclosed c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)  WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.  SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED  Name (Print / Type) James E. Howard  Registration No. (Attorney / Agent) 39,715	i. ☐ Amendment/Reply iii. ☐ Information iii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iv. ☐ Other  2. Miscellaneous  a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application	n is requested under 27 OFD 4 4004 > 6			
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.  a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0481 (Deficiencies Only)  i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)  ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)  iii. Other  b. Check in the amount of \$ 1.220.00 enclosed  c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)  WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.  SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED  Name (Print/Type) James E. Howard Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 39,715	a period of months. (Period of suspension shall no	ot exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1 17(i) required)			
Name (Print / Type) James E. Howard Registration No. (Attorney / Agent) 39,715  Signature 39,715	Deposit Account No. 50-0481 (Deficiencies Only)  i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)  ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)  iii. Other  b. Check in the amount of \$ 1,220.00  C. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)  WARNING: Information on this form may become public	eng fees, or credit any overpayments, to  enclosed			
Name (Print / Type) James E. Howard Registration No. (Attorney / Agent) 39,715  Signature 39,715	SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED				
Signature	Name (Print / Type) James E. Howard				
	Signature / / /	Date December 3, 2004			
	CERTIFICATE OF MAN WAS				
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION  ereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in e U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.					
lame (Print / Type)	Name (Print / Type)				
Signature Data	Signature	Data			
Date	is collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain				

process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing the burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.